



AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend paragraph no. 64 recited on page 20, line 21 through page 21, line 11 of the specification as follows:

Mounting bracket may be configured to affix a deck and/or railing assembly portion at a suitable angle relative to another deck and/or railing assembly portion. For example, mounting bracket 100 may have a second surface 130 that substantially forms an angle with another portion of the mounting bracket 100 and/or a railing component. For example, second surface 130 may form an angle of about 32.5 degrees with respect to the first surface 120 and/or the longitudinal axis of the mounting holes 110 when mounting bracket 100 is oriented to be mounted to the railing post 21. Second surface 130 may also form an angle of about 57.5 degrees with respect to the longitudinal axis of the railing post and/or the second mounting holes 160. For railing assemblies in general, the angle of second surface ~~[[140]]~~ 130 may be varied up to at least five degrees in either direction. In various embodiments, however, second surface 130 may form any desired angle (i.e., from 1 degree to 360 degrees) with any portion of mounting bracket 100 and/or any railing component, as will be apparent to persons of ordinary skill in the art.